

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: Chairman Jon Sonju, on February 16, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jon Sonju, Chairman (R)
Rep. Bob Ebinger, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Gordon Vance, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Dick Barrett (D)
Rep. Tom Berry (R)
Rep. Deborah Kottel (D)
Rep. Margaret MacDonald (D)
Rep. Lee Randall (R)
Rep. J. David Roundstone (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor (R)
Rep. Bill Wilson (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Katie Butcher, Committee Secretary
Rachel Weiss, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: HB 472, HB 531, HB 563, HB 567
Executive Action: None

00:00:00 Call to order

HEARING ON HB 472

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:04 Rep. Dick Barrett (D), HD 93, opened the hearing on HB 472, Clarify state and local highway maintenance obligations.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:41 Rep. Chas Vincent, HD 2, Libby, Montana
00:06:50 Cynthia Johnson, Pondera County Commissioner, Montana Association of Counties
00:07:40 Alan Hulse, Montana Municipal Insurance Authority
00:09:32 Gordon Morris, Lewis and Clark County Commissioners, Montana Association of County Road Supervisors
00:09:59 John MacDonald, City of Missoula
00:11:40 Ed Bartlett, City of Billings
00:12:15 Alec Hansen, League of Cities and Towns

Opponents' Testimony:

00:14:46 Tim Reardon, Chief Counsel, Department of Transportation
00:23:04 Michael King, Associate Attorney, Risk Management and Tort Defense; Department of Administration

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:31:58 Rep. Barrett
(Rep. Arntzen arrived.)

HEARING ON HB 531

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:32:37 Rep. Bill Nooney (R), HD 100, opened the hearing on HB 531, Prohibit use technology for issuing citations not witnessed by officer.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:38:58 Rep. Scott Mendenhall, HD 77, Clancy, Montana
00:40:17 Nick Landeros, Bozeman, Montana
00:43:03 Scott Crichton, American Civil Liberties Union
00:47:00 Chris Lefer

Opponents' Testimony:

00:50:33 Rich McLane, City of Bozeman
EXHIBIT (trh36a01)
00:54:11 Rich St. John, Chief of Police, Billings, Montana
00:56:38 Chris Kukulski, City Manager, Bozeman, Montana
01:00:46 Alec Hansen, League of Cities and Towns
01:01:12 Pam Bucy, Chiefs of Police Association
01:03:10 Greg Van Horssen, State Farm Insurance Company
01:04:46 Bruce Spencer, Property Casualty Insurers Association
01:05:39 Jessie Luther, Burlington Northern Santa Fe
01:07:21 Darren Kolack, Redflex Traffic Systems

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:09:56 Rep. Kottel
01:10:29 Mr. McLane
01:13:48 Rep. Arntzen
01:14:14 Mr. St. John
01:18:27 Rep. Arntzen
01:18:40 Mr. Kolack
01:20:25 Rep. Vance
01:20:38 Mr. Kolack
01:21:08 Chairman Sonju
01:21:25 Rep. Vance
01:21:30 Mr. Kolack
01:23:22 Chairman Sonju
01:23:27 Mr. Kolack
01:23:47 Rep. Kottel
01:24:16 Rep. Ebinger
01:24:34 Mr. Kukulski
01:25:16 Rep. MacDonald
01:25:42 Mr. Van Horssen
01:26:35 Rep. Randall
01:26:59 Mr. Kolack

Closing by Sponsor:

01:27:50 Rep. Nooney

01:32:51 Break
01:45:10 Reconvene

HEARING ON HB 563

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:45:22 Rep. Deborah Kottel (D), HD 20, opened the hearing on HB 563, Legalization of county roads.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:49:23 Cynthia Johnson, Pondera County Commissioner, Montana Association of Counties
01:50:58 Gordon Morris, Lewis and Clark County Commissioners, Montana Association of County Road Supervisors

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:51:37 Rep. Kottel
(Chairman Sonju asked Vice Chairman Vance to serve as temporary chairman.)

HEARING ON HB 567

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:52:52 Rep. Jon Sonju (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB 567, Revise automobile dealer franchise laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:54:24 Bruce Spencer, Montana Automobile Dealers Association
EXHIBIT(trh36a02)
02:04:11 Rep. Bill Nooney, HD 100, Missoula, Montana
02:05:04 Tim Huburtd, Missoula, Montana; President, Montana Auto Dealers
02:06:51 Bob DePratu, Whitefish, Montana
02:14:19 Joel Billion, Bozeman, Montana
02:28:03 Don Kaltschmidt, Whitefish, Montana
02:31:23 Gary Brayko, Billings, Montana
02:33:44 Eric Anderson, Helena, Montana

02:36:27 Jim Stanger, Helena, Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

02:37:55 Richard Elmquist, Alliance of Automobile Manufactures

02:53:25 Mona Jamison, General Motors

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

02:55:27 Rep. Sonju

ADJOURNMENT

02:57:45 Adjournment

Katie Butcher, Secretary

kb

Additional Exhibit:

Information on HB 567 John MacDonald and Mona Jamison.
Letter from the Governor's office regarding HB 472.

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([trh36aad.pdf](#))